



News Update, October 2018

Late September, the Victorian Government released the [Voluntary Assisted Dying Regulations 2018](#) to support the [Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017](#). While the ACT speaks to the *legislation* of Voluntary Assisted Dying, the REGULATIONS set out how the legislation will *operate*. The regulations also include prescribed forms for voluntary assisted dying permits and permit applications, as well as for labelling statements for a voluntary assisted dying substance.

This is an important step as it makes the law that much harder to repeal, should the Labor government not be returned at the upcoming November elections.

The Better Health Channel of the Victorian Government has now published its [website for Voluntary Assisted Dying](#), which outlines the most frequently asked questions.

A screenshot of the Better Health Channel website. At the top left, there are logos for "VICTORIA State Government" and "Better Health Channel". To the right, there are links for "Contrast", "Sign Up", and "Login", along with a search icon. Below the navigation bar, there are menu items: "Conditions and treatments", "Healthy living", "Services and support", "A-Z", and "Blog". The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Services and support > End of life and palliative care services > Voluntary assisted dying". The title "Voluntary assisted dying" is prominently displayed. To the right of the title are icons for "Share", "Download PDF", "Listen", and "More". At the bottom left of the content area, there is a small icon and the text "End of life and palliative care services".

Channel 9 program 60 Minutes interviewed Dr Alida Lancee, a GP from Perth, about her admission she had helped a suffering patient die. The story also

features WA Dr Frank Kotai and Dr Rodney Syme. Her story was first published [The Damage Done](#), a collection of 72 testimonies that describe with horrifying clarity the damage being done across Australia in the absence of a law for voluntary assisted dying. Watch the story [online](#).



The WA Government is still considering its response to the [report of the Western Australian Joint Select Committee on End of Life Choices](#). Unnecessary suffering at end of life, and broad community agreement regarding individual autonomy, form the basis for the Committee's recommendation that the Western Australian Government draft and introduce a Bill for Voluntary Assisted Dying. The Committee also recommended a Bill be drafted in consultation with a panel of experts.

If you live in WA please contact your local MP today to strongly encourage the Government to put forward this legislation.

CONTACT YOUR MP in WA